

Study. AMD

~~AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2646, AS REPORTED~~
OFFERED BY MR. STENHOLM

(Page and line numbers refer to the amendment in the nature
of a substitute, COMBES.011)

AMENDMENT No. ____: At the end of title I (page 133, after line 13), insert
the following new section:

1 SEC. ____ REPORT ON EFFECT OF CERTAIN FARM PRO-
2 GRAM PAYMENTS ON ECONOMIC VIABILITY
3 OF PRODUCERS AND FARMING INFRASTRUC-
4 TURE.

5 (a) REVIEW REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Agri-
6 culture shall conduct a review of the effects that payments
7 under production flexibility contracts and market loss as-
8 sistance payments have had, and that fixed, decoupled
9 payments and counter-cyclical payments are likely to have,
10 on the economic viability of producers and the farming in-
11 frastructure, particularly in areas where climate, soil
12 types, and other agronomic conditions severely limit the
13 covered crops that producers can choose to successfully
14 and profitably produce.

15 (b) CASE STUDY RELATED TO RICE PRODUCTION.—
16 The review shall include a case study of the effects that
17 the payments described in subsection (a), and the forecast
18 effects of increasing these or other decoupled payments,
19 are likely to have on rice producers (including tenant rice

1 producers), the rice milling industry, and the economies
2 of rice farming areas in Texas, where harvested rice acre-
3 age has fallen from 320,000 acres in 1995 to only 211,000
4 acres in 2001.

5 (c) REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later
6 than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,
7 the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agri-
8 culture of the House of Representatives and the Com-
9 mittee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Sen-
10 ate a report describing the information collected for the
11 review and the case study and any findings made on the
12 basis of such information. The report shall include rec-
13 ommendations for minimizing the adverse effects on pro-
14 ducers, with a special focus on producers who are tenants,
15 on the agricultural economies in farming areas generally,
16 on those particular areas described in subsection (a), and
17 on the area that is the subject of the case study in sub-
18 section (b).

